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# arglebargle!

wednesday, january 31, 2007

## Happy National Gorilla Suit Day!



...Though this particular year might be better remembered as the day of the "Aqua Teen Hoax"...especially if you live in Boston or Atlanta. I'll do a follow-up post to that story once all the facts are in and the dust settles over on my *Adult Swimmin'* Blog page....but for now let me just say Hoo-boy!

Anyhow, sorry...gorilla suit, gorilla suit... okay. Here's some past observers of the Holiday...



## about me



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This one goes back a-ways...you had to be *really* cool to get past the Gorilla doorman at this club.



Ro-Man has looked healthier than he does in this ad for *Robot Monster*.  
(Come to think though, *Death Wears a Gorilla Suit* is a pretty good title...)



They're all out there though...workin' toll gates in the rain...



Providing technical assistance...



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Doin' maintenance work...



Fighting Hobbits...



Even drivin' flying saucers...





...And generally just bein' the ever-lovin', brown-eyed idols o' millions!

Kudos for this post go out to Don Martin, Mark Evanier, Charles Gemora, Ray Corrigan, George Barrows, Bob Burns, Rick Baker, and anyone else who has ever put on a Gorilla costume!

posted by c. martin croker at 11:26 pm | 2 comments

**tuesday, january 16, 2007**

## **Josie, Joe, Bill, Iwao & The H-B Studios**



I can now understand why the guy at "The Astounding B-Monster" website got downhearted because he felt like his site was basically becoming an ongoing obituary column....'cause it seems like almost every day now there comes word that the animation industry or 1960's entertainment has lost yet another personality or visionary. Just in the past month we've lost no less than Joe Barbera, James Brown, Steve Krantz, Yvonne De Carlo and (pictured) Iwao Takamoto.

That's one hell of a list.

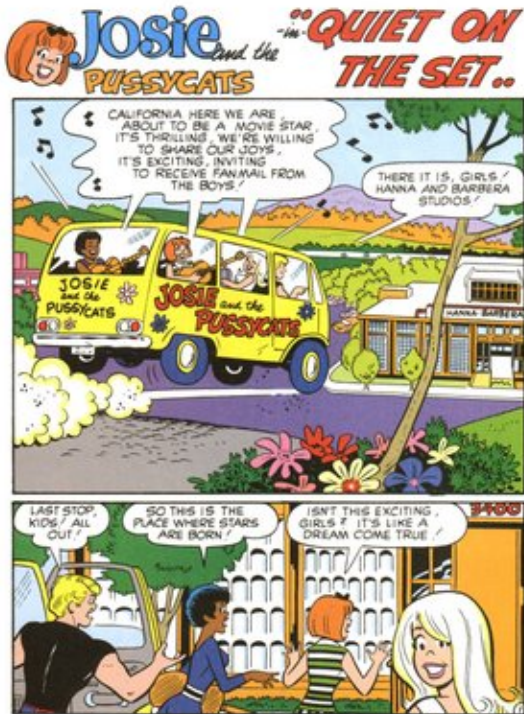
And if you go back over the past year, so many icons have passed it's really sobering. It's as if there's some sort of "1960's culture-rapture" goin' on. Almost everyone who entertained me growing up is starting to check out now.

John Buscema died on by 40th birthday...and now Iwao on my 45th. (Also reminding me that at best, my own life-sojourn is probably more than halfway over.)

If you're reading this to begin with I'm going to assume that Iwao needs no life's-work resume from me. He's been widely credited as the creator of the characters from *Scooby Doo*, *Where Are You?* Hell, even Conan O'Brien and Saturday Night Live made Scooby Doo-related jokes about his death last week. (though neither, to my knowledge, made any mention of Joe Barbera's death just 3 weeks earlier --The guy who's show is on after Letterman did that at least!) He also helped create and design several other H-B hounds over the years including "Astro" from *The Jetsons*, "Muttley" from *Wacky Races*, and "Krypto" and other characters from the

recent *Krypto* Cartoon Network series.

So, here's a bizzaro comic I dug up after Joe Barbera's passing last month, but with the Holidays n' all I just hadn't had a chance to run it yet...it's a Dan DeCarlo drawn comic from 1970 where Josie and the Pussycats pay a visit to Hanna-Barbera studios in North Hollywood in conjunction with their new CBS Saturday morning cartoon show. Seems like Dan mighta actually gone to the Studio to do the story --but I still wonder where the gang is supposed to be approaching the building from in the opening panel...





So Alexandra works her charms on team Ruby-Spears, hoping they'll write her some better action with Alan M. Meantime the Pussycat crew works their way down to the animation department...who else would they run into there in 1970 if not Iwao and --making his third appearance in this blog-- Carlo Vinci! (Btw---Did I mention that I always thought of Alex and

Alexandra as the Linus and Lucy of the *Archie* set? Just with more money....)



So the H-B staff play an expensive trick on Alexandra which involves the Pussycats being shown a completed scene that the H-B alchemists have whipped up *during* their visit(!) in which Alan M hits Alexandra in the face with a pie. (Yeah right...even though in all honesty, a lot of sequences in

the actual show often *looked* like they were animated in a single coffee-fueled afternoon)



Good thing the songs on the show were better than that...'cause even as an eight-year-old I thought this little ditty was pretty lame!  
Er...I mean...my *sister* bought Archie comics...I bought mainly Harvey titles and weird stuff like *House of Mystery & Mad*.

Thanks and kudos for this post go out to The Dan Decarlo family, The Joe Barbera family, The Bill Hanna family, The Iwao Takamoto family and Archie Comics Publications.

posted by c. martin croker at 11:15 pm | 9 comments

friday, january 05, 2007

## 1960 Peanuts for Ford Falcon in COLOR!

So Mark Evanier just posted this commercial to his site this morning. This was doubly-ironic for me, as I've spent the last few days trying to find some Peanuts Ford commercials on YouTube and the web in general --AND the Ford Falcon in this spot is the EXACT year, model and color that my DAD owned when I was a kid! (I remember thinking back then how the heater vent under the dash looked kinda like a boxcar with an open door on a steep grade.) I love the way the early Peanuts designs are animated here though...too bad ol' Snoopy didn't ALWAYS look this good!

posted by c. martin croker at 2:28 pm | 4 comments

monday, january 01, 2007

## Fantastic Four 2:The Silver Surfer

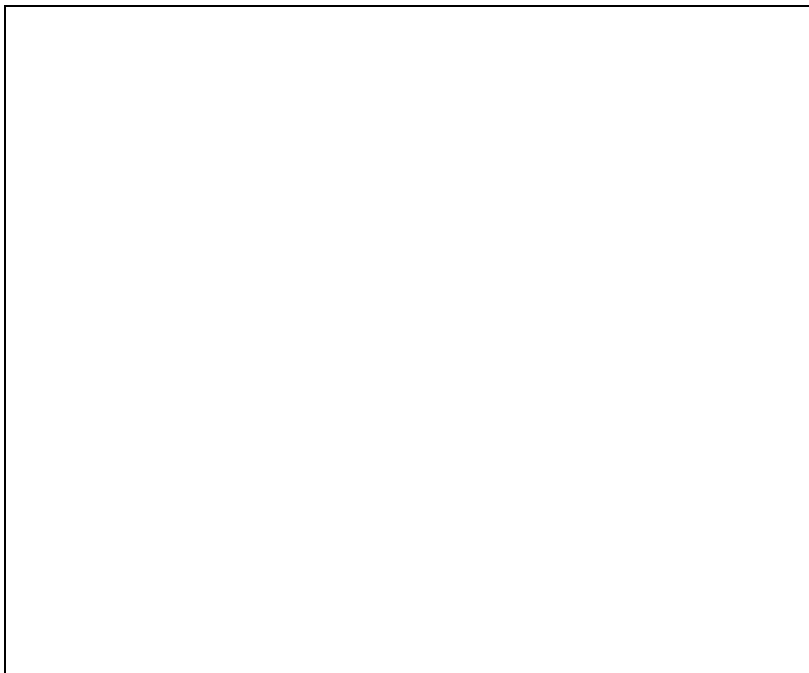




Happy New Year! So here we are...2007 already. Before you know it it'll be May and the ads for this flick will presumably be everywhere. But for now, here's the all new, first-official look at the **Silver Surfer** from this Summer's *20th Century Fox* release *Fantastic Four 2: The rise of the Silver Surfer*. Also presented here (for as long as it lasts) is the all-new trailer/extended sequence for the Mega-B epic, (which at least feels a *little* more like an old 1960's FF Comic than any scene in the 2005 movie did). There's some obvious things I don't like about it right off the bat, but o' course you know me and Hollywood...

Check it out for yourself NOW!:

**Fantastic Four 2 trailer** (your comments welcome)



posted by c. martin croker at 10:33 pm | 4 comments